



First Presbyterian Church OF OKLAHOMA CITY

The Service for the Lord's Day - April 21, 2024

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Celebration of the Earth

A special welcome to those visiting with us today!

We are grateful for your presence with us and hope you find this time of worship to be meaningful.

When you see an asterisk *, please rise in body or spirit, however you are comfortable.

Children are welcome in worship! A nursery is also available for infants and toddlers in Room 119.

We Gather to Worship

PRELUDE

Improvisation on GERMANY (hymn 343)

John L. Edwards

WORDS OF WELCOME, CHURCH LIFE

DEACON'S MOMENT

Blaine Moore

FIRST CHIME

INTROIT

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

Sanctuary Singers

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: See what love the Father has given us, that we should be called children of God;

People: and that is what we are.

All: Let us worship God.

*HYMN 308

O God in Whom All Life Begins

NOEL

*PRAYER OF THE DAY (Unison)

Angie Sholar

O God, Holy Spirit, whose breath gives life to the world and whose voice is heard in the soft breeze, we need your strength and wisdom. Come to us in this hour, come among us. Come as the wind and refresh us. Come as the rain and cleanse us. We join with your Creation and with each other in raising our voices in thanks and praise for the gifts of the earth. Amen.

O God in Whom All Life Begins 308

1 O God in whom all life be-gins, who births the seed to fruit,
 2 U - nite in mu - tual min - is - try our minds and hands and hearts
 3 Through tears and laugh-ter, grief and joy, en - large our trust and care;

be - stow your bless - ing on our lives; here let your love find root.
 that we may have the grace to seek the power your peace im - parts.
 so bind us in com - mu - ni - ty that we may risk and dare.

Bring forth in us the Spir - it's gifts of pa - tience, joy, and peace;
 So let our var - ied gifts com - bine to glo - ri - fy your Name
 Be with us when we gath - er here to wor - ship, sing, and pray;

de - liv - er us from numb - ing fear, and grant our faith in - crease.
 that in all things by word and deed we may your love pro - claim.
 then send us forth in power and faith to live the words we say.

Although it was written for the installation of a pastor, this text is really about the mutual ministry shared by all members of a worshipping community, both when they are gathered and when they go forth into the world. The tune used here may have Christmas associations for some.

***LITANY OF ASSURANCE - 1 Peter 1:3-6a**

Leader: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

People: By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,

Leader: and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,

People: who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

All: In this we rejoice!

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.
To this peace we are called as members of a single body.
The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

***HYMN OF RESPONSE 582** *Glory to God, Whose Goodness Shines on Me* GLORY TO GOD (Vasile)
Glory to God, whose goodness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has pardoned me,
and to the Spirit, whose love has set me free.
As it was in the beginning,
is now and ever shall be. Amen.

We Proclaim God's Word

DISCOVERY TIME Children are invited forward for a special message. Cyndi Lockwood
Children seated on the Chancel steps will be in view of the livestream image;
those on the floor facing the steps will not.

Children—5 years old to 4th grade—are invited to attend Children's Church in Room 215.
Parents may pick up children after worship from those locations.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

MINUTE FOR MISSION Creation Care Team Elizabeth Hatcher & Lisa Turner

***LITANY FOR HEALING**

Leader: We join with the earth and with each other.

To bring new life to the land

To restore the waters

To refresh the air

People: We join with the earth and with each other.

Leader: To renew the forests
To care for the plants
To protect the creatures

People: We join with the earth and with each other.

Leader: To celebrate the seas
To rejoice in the sunlight
To sing the song of the stars

People: We join with the earth and with each other.

Leader: To recall our destiny
To renew our spirits
To reinvigorate our bodies

People: We join with the earth and with each other.

Leader: To create the human community
To promote justice and peace
To remember our children

All: We are full of the grace of creation.
We are graceful.
We are grateful.
We rejoice in all life.

ANTHEM

Beautiful Things

Michael & Lisa Gungor

William Aceytuno, tenor; Marina Quintanilla, mezzo-soprano

All this pain: I wonder if I'll ever find my way. I wonder if my life could really change at all.

All this earth: could all that is lost ever be found? Could a garden come up from this ground at all?

You make beautiful things out of the dust. You make beautiful things out of us.

All around hope is springing up from this old ground. Out of chaos life is being found in You.

You make me new; You are making me new.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS

1 John 3:16-18 (pg. 240)

This is the word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Lamb of God

Twila Paris

Sanctuary Singers

arr. Lloyd Larson

Your only Son, no sin to hide, but you have sent him from your side to walk upon this guilty sod, and to become the Lamb of God. O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God, I love the holy Lamb of God! O wash me in his precious blood, my Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

Your gift of love, we crucified; we laughed and scorned him as he died; the humble King we named a fraud and sacrificed the Lamb of God. I was so lost, I should have died, but you have brought me to your side to be led by your staff and rod, and to be called a lamb of God.

We Respond to God's Word

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Nicene Creed

Let us confess the faith of the universal church.

We believe in one God,

**the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,

**the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;

he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again

**in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

(Collection plates are located by the doors as you exit the Sanctuary.)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 215

What Wondrous Love Is This

WONDROUS LOVE

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eternal God, holy and mighty ... who forever sing to the glory of your name:

HYMN 562

*Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full, full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.*

You are holy, O God of majesty ... Praise to you, Lord Jesus:

HYMN 563

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit ... all glory and honor are yours, eternal God,
now and forever.

HYMN 564 ***Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.***

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

COMMUNION VOLUNTARY

BRADBURY (hymn 187)

John L. Edwards

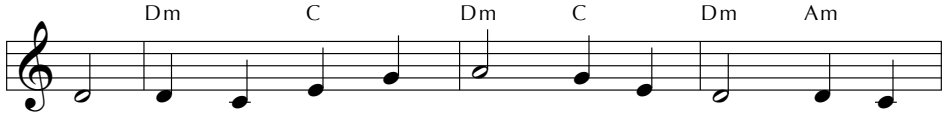
COMMISSIONING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

In the name of this congregation, we send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those
to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood.

We who are many are one body because we all share one bread, one cup.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

What Wondrous Love Is This 215



1 What won - drous love is this, O my soul, O my
 2 When I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, sink - ing
 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will
 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, what won - drous love is this, O my soul! What
 down, when I was sink - ing down, sink - ing down, when
 sing, to God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to
 on; and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on; and



won - drous love is this that caused the Lord of
 I was sink - ing down be - neath God's righ - teous
 God and to the Lamb who is the great I
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing and joy - ful



bliss to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul, for my
 frown, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul, for my
 AM, while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing, I will
 be, and through e - ter - ni - ty, I'll sing on, I'll sing



soul, to bear the dread - ful curse for my soul!
 soul, Christ laid a - side his crown for my soul!
 sing; while mil - lions join the theme, I will sing!
 on; and through e - ter - ni - ty I'll sing on.

With its ballad-like repetitions before and after each stanza's central narrative lines, this meditative text needs performance in order to be effective. Its haunting melody proves the means of convincing us that the only adequate response to "wondrous love" is to "sing on."

We Go in God's Name

*HYMN 39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

FAITHFULNESS

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Improvisation on TOULON (hymn 624)

John L. Edwards

The rosebud on the communion table is in celebration of the birth of Willow Ophelia Wilson, born April 11, 2024. Congratulations to proud parents Nicole and Scott Wilson!

Today

Sunday School Classes | 9:30 a.m.

- Builders | Room B-8
- Evergreen | Room B-14
- New Beginnings | Fireside Room
- High School | Youth Lounge
- Middle School | Room B-10
- Children | Room 213 (9:45 a.m.)
- Preschool | Room 215 (9:45 a.m.)

Sanctuary Worship | 11:00 a.m.

PW's Kentucky Derby Tea | 12:00 p.m.

Don your finest hat and join us for a Kentucky Derby-themed high tea in Watchorn Hall! We'll enjoy tea sandwiches, scones, and pastries while sipping delicious tea, hot or cold. All women of the church are invited as well as our youngest members (ages 5+).

During the tea, we will announce and recognize the Woman of the Year, as well as the PW officers for the coming year.

Community Garden

We have a few plots available in the Community Garden! If you or someone you know is interested, please call the church office (405-525-6584) to sign up.

Scan for our
online giving.
Thank you!



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Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 *Great is thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,

there is no shad - ow of turn - ing with thee.
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide,

Thou chang - est not; thy com - pas - sions they fail not.
 join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row:

As thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 to thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

*Or "Great is thy faithfulness, O God, Creator."

Written as a meditation on Lamentations 3:22-23, this text is one of the few hymns among the 1200 poems by this Methodist writer and pastor that has gained much currency. The tune that appears here was composed especially for these words, and the pairing has proved enduring.

Refrain



Great is thy faith - ful - ness! Great is thy faith - ful - ness!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 오 신 실 하 신 주



Morn - ing by morn - ing, new mer - cies I see.
 날 마 다 자 비 를 베 푸 시 며



All I have need - ed thy hand hath pro - vid - ed.
 일 용 할 모 든 것 내 려 주 시 니



Great is thy faith - ful - ness, Lord un - to me!
 오 신 실 하 신 주 나 의 구 주

Upcoming Events

Bridge Group — Mondays | 6:00-8:00 p.m. | Room B-10

Our Bridge groups have consolidated to Monday nights! All skills levels are welcome to join us for no-pressure play and an opportunity to learn and improve.

Contact Dan MacLemore (405-496-0185 or rockdoc1949@gmail.com) if you have any questions!

Individual Prayer & Evensong Worship — Wednesdays | 5:00 & 5:30 p.m.

The Sanctuary is open on Wednesdays for individual meditation and prayer at 5:00 p.m. and an Evensong service from 5:30–6:00 p.m. Evensong is a short church service, featuring sung psalms, readings, and prayers, offering a period of respite and contemplation after the workday, to help transition into the restful night.

Free Yoga Class — Wednesdays | 6:30 p.m.

Join us for our Free Yoga Classes! As always, all skill levels are welcome. Now that the weather is warming up, we'll meet in the courtyard. We have extra mats available if you don't have your own.

Choir Rehearsal — Wednesdays | 7:00-8:30 p.m.

All are welcome to come to choir rehearsals on Wednesdays from 7:00-8:30 p.m. in room B-32! If you have any questions about the choir or the music program in general, **please contact Puffer** (puffer@fpcokc.org) or **call the church office (405-525-6584).**

Deacons Out and About: Riverboat Cruise — Friday, April 26 | 5:30 p.m.

Welcome aboard FPC-OKC's first Riverboat Cruise sponsored by the Deacons! We'll meet at Big Friendly (1737 Spoke St, near SW 13th & Douglas Ave.) starting at 5:30 p.m. for food and beer, wine, or soft drinks (at your own expense). At 7:00 p.m., we'll move to the Riverboat Landing (1503 Exchange Ave.) and board our boat by 7:15. We'll depart at 7:30 and return at 9:00 p.m. There will be a beverage bar on board with soft drinks, coffee, and water (covered by the Deacons) and a cash bar. We will return to the same landing after a fun evening of socializing.

All slots are currently filled for the April 26 Cruise, but there are still openings for the all-ages June 1 cruise. **You can claim your spot at tinyurl.com/DEACONScruise or by calling the church office at 405-525-6584.**

Saturday Worship (Marathon Weekend) — Saturday, April 27 | 5:00 p.m.

Due to the Oklahoma City Marathon route surrounding the church, we will not have Sunday activities or worship on April 28. Instead, please join us Saturday, April 27, at 5:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary for worship!

Kemp Concert Series: The Traverso — Sunday, May 5 | 4:00-5:30 p.m.

Join us in the Chapel for our next FREE Kemp Concert Series performance, The Traverso!

John L. Edwards will explore flutes and their music, playing 25 different flutes from a variety of cultures and historical periods. Carey Morrow will join Mr. Edwards, playing members of the lute family.

Urban Mission Annual Golf Scramble — Monday, June 10 | 8:00 a.m.

Sign up now to reserve your spot and save the date! Register your foursome together or let the Urban Mission put you on a winning team. Prizes include a RedView rangefinder, a Caribbean cruise, and even a 25k prize!

Registration is \$100 per person. All proceeds from this event go to benefit The Urban Mission's programs which support Oklahomans in need. **Register at tinyurl.com/urbanmissiongolf24.**